arguments. In the Committee, there might have been non-official members, but they would have been independent of the Legislative Council. When the Legislative Council has come into existence, there is no need of a Committee.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

We cannot do everything at once. That is the difficulty. Another reason is we may not be able to take it up till the Madras Act is passed. The Government has to be careful in all these matters. As a matter of fact, in my opinion, more important papers have been postponed, more because the fate of Madras Act has to be seen.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

Madras is following us.

RAO SAHIB T. V. KASTURI RANGA AYYAR.

They have made drastic advances now-a-days. We have been following Madras in several respects. In this respect they have followed us. We need not follow them in this respect.

President.—It will be a guide for us.

The Expenditure on the Stoneware Works.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

70. (a) Will the Government be pleased to place on the table an exact account of the amounts already spent by them on the Government Stoneware Works at Chalakkudi?

(b) Has the Government been able to make any profit at all out of this concern?

(c) Will the Government be pleased to state what they propose to do with it hereafter?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

(a) Rs. 3,79,616-7-7 on capital and Rs. 30, 678 on working charges up to the end of 1100.

(b) A valuation of the products manufactured up to the end of 1100 amounts to Rs. 7,743-10-4.

(c) Vide answer to question No. 30.

The Trikkur Road Extension.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

71. What is the amount spent on the Trikkur Road Extension? Has this been abandoned? If so, why?

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Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

Rs. 16, 534-3-0. The work has been abandoned, as heavy recurring expenditure is involved in its maintenance on account of serious breaches during annual floods.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

It was abandoned, it is said, having spent more than sixteen thousand and odd rupees on a road of nearly a mile. May I know whether the Government consulted the Panchayats or the local public before starting the work? Is it proposed to be abandoned? May I know whether there is any objection to postpone the same?

President.—The question is a clear one: "What is the amount spent on the Trikkur Road, &c". The amount is Rs. 16,534—3—0. "Has it been abandoned? If so, why?". "The work has been abandoned, as heavy recurring expenditure is involved in its maintenance on account of serious breaches during annual floods". Then you ask a question.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

I wish to know whether the work was taken up only during winter. So, may I know why?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

It is not a question of taking up the work. Whether the work is taken up during the winter or summer it matters little. The reason for the serious breaches is that the water during the winter overtops the bund and thus causes the breach.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

It is because the work is taken up during winter. If the work is taken up during summer and the earth becomes dry, the floods would not affect the bund. This is a question of opinion, and it is left to one to know whether they can make a trial by spending a few more rupees.

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

I do not understand the point of Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.

President.—What he wants to know is this. The road-work was taken up during the winter season, and if the work was taken up during summer, which is the proper season for doing the work, the ground would have settled itself, and the floods would not have injuriously affected the road.

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

It is all a question of floods. If the water overtops the bund, it is sure to fail whether it is done during summer or the mon-

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soon. Any earth bund is sure to give way by floods. So whether it is done during monsoon or summer, it is a question whether the water will overtop the bund.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

Are there not other roads where the water overflows the earth-work? For instance, the Manali road is one where every year water is overflowing. It does far more heavy damage. We are spending every year over the bund.

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

The Trikkur road is not so important a road as the Manali road. There is another case where we have spent more money, and that is the Perumpuzha causeway.

Mr. C. ACHYUTA MENON.

The Trikkur road is one that ends in a ferry.

Dr. A. R. MENON.

Sir, I rise to a point of order. I want a ruling as to whether, when a member is asking a supplementary question, several Government members can answer, and whether other members can answer in their place. I find here more than one official member answering, and in some cases, non-official members also answering. I do not think it is proper for the House to allow that.

President.—I think it is objectionable.

The Kurumali Bund.

Mr. T. A. RAMACHANDRA AYYAR.

72. What is the amount spent on the Kurumali bund? Was it not started at the request of the public and with the approval of the Diwan Peishkar and the Diwan, and why has this been abandoned?

Mr. V. K. ARAVINDAKSHA MENON.

Rs. 22,220-14-9. The work was ordered at the request of the people. During floods, the new bund breached in several places, and it was found that the scheme was not a practicable one as it was difficult to maintain it. It was therefore abandoned.

Water Communication to Kunnamkulam.

Mr. K. T. MATHEW.

73. With reference to the representation made in the last session of the Legislative Council regarding the necessity of extending water communication to Kunnamkulam, will the Government be pleased to state what action has been taken and

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